Rambling in Lincolniana

ness. Interest in the great ruary 12. or the week preceding that the new edition of her book, "was Before the writer are two Lincoln books: a new edition of Ida M. Tarbell's "He Knew Lincoln and Other Billy Brown Stories"; and "Lincoln, the Greatest Man in the Nineteenth Century," by Chafles Reynolds Brown, dean of the Divinity School of Yale University; also two illustrations, one of which is from the Columbia Jester, and the other a hitherto unpublished letter,



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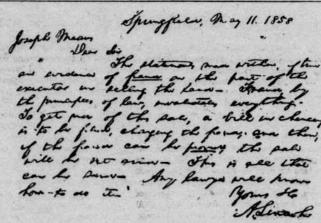


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INCOLNIANA is a subject in- which is here printed by the courdependent of mere timeli- tesy of Mrs. Rena H. Barickman.

The original of Billy Brown, says emancipator is not confined to Feb- Miss Tarbell in the introduction to still keeping his drug store in Springfield in the 90s, when the writer made studies there for a 'Life of Lincoln. She passed many an hour in Lincoln's chair, while Billy, tipped back in something less preclous, talked. There were Billy Browns in other towns-Bloomington, Princeton, Quincy, Chicago, Their memory of Mr. Lincoln was among the precious and satisfying things in their lives. When business was dull or the day rainy and consequently there were few or no interruptions, the talk you started by questions soon became a soliloquy. Head against the wall, feet on desk, Their memories were tender, rever-

LESTER



thing we call hero worship. Lincoln remained too real to them, too interesting and companionable."

Dr. Brown recalls the splendid audacity of Lincoln in an anecdote: There was a certain measure in which the President believed strongthey revived the old friendship. ly. He brought it one afternoon into a Cabinet meeting. He found that ent, but singularly devoid of the his Secretaries, to the last man, were

THE BLUE PENCIL

years ago our fathers brought forth an-ti

et sivit war, testing whether that

1 Edit Bull)

ated, can long endure.

The The

ster new birth of freedomy and

a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the

We are met on a great battlefield of thelwar. We have come to dedicate a decision of that field, as a tirst resting place of those offer of the men who diddient. It is altogether

That all men are created equal.

But in a larger s ense/re cannot dedicate, see

detract. The world will first note, nor long there, but it can never forget the tid here.

living there to be delicated here to the most

at hallow this ground. The brase men, tiring a

struggled here hart dedicated it for above our pour power to add or

they the fought here have the most advanced. The sether the found to the great task remaining by the man be been dedicated to the great task remaining by the man devoted to the country man devoted to the set task remaining by the man devoted to the set task remaining by task remaining by the set task remaining by task

Mr. | all strongly opposed to it. He spent considerable time in explaining it and seeking to bring them to his way of thinking, but apparently without much effect. The time came, however, when a vote had to be taken. Lincoln put the motion: 'All those in favor will say Aye.' The Secretaries sat there silent. 'All those opposed will say No.' Every man instantly voted a stout, strong 'No.' .There came a look of disappointment in the President's face and then a twinkle in his eye. After a significant pause he remarked: 'The Ayes seem to have it. The motion is carried.'"

The story of the hitherto unpublished Lincoln letter is as follows: In May, 1858, Joseph Means, a farmer residing near Eureka, Ill., journeyed to Bloomington to attend to some business in the interest of his recently widowed daughter, Mary Means Meek, who resided with Learning of certain complications involving his daughter's property, Mr. Means, under date of May addressed a letter to Abraham Lincoln explaining the difficulties and requesting advice. With characteristic informality Attorney Lincoln wrote his reply on the reverse side of his correspondent's letter. The illustration taken from the

Columbia Jester, speaks for itself. Occasionally such undergraduate publications as the Jester, the Harvard Lampoon, the Princeton Tiger, the Cornell Widow, and the Yale Record achieve humor of a really high order. The Jester's skit strikes the copy reader of limited imagination, but beyond that it carries a message of deeper significance to the Gradgrindes of the world.

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